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SOURCE Wen-hui Pao.

SSFA ORGANIZES 4,130 UNITS,
 HAS 1,900,000 MEMBERS IN CHINA

Pei-p'ing, 20 January (Hsin-hua) -- According to an incomplete report at the end of 1949, there were 150 branches and subbranches and 3,980 sectional or subsectional offices of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association in the liberated areas of China. The total membership was 1,900,000, including 36,456 SSFA members in Jehol alone, the same report indicated.

Another incomplete report states that there are now 300,000 SSFA members in Chahar, Shansi, Hopeh, and Pingyuan provinces and in T'ien-ching.

The Chahar Branch of the SSFA already controls five subbranches and 17 sectional offices with members totalling 72,000. T'ai-yuan has 143 subsectional offices; T'ien-ching has 250 sectional offices with a total membership of 70,000.

The northern Anhwei Branch of the SSFA was established in December 1949. Subbranches already exist in Pan-fou, Ho-fei, and An-ch'ing. The southern Kiangsu Branch was established in November 1949. There are preparatory committees for the subbranches in Wu-hsi, Ch'ang-chou, and Chen-chiang.

The preparatory committee of the northern Kiangsu Branch was established in December 1949. It controls the Yang-chou Branch with 1,600 members and the Nan-t'ung Subbranch. The preparatory committees for the subbranches are now being organized in Huai-yin and Yen-ch'eng. The Chekiang Branch of the SSFA was established in September 1949. At present, it controls 12 branches and 32 subbranches.

Since the establishment of the Pei-p'ing Branch of the SSFA, 230 sectional and subsectional offices were established in Pei-p'ing and its suburbs. The total membership controlled by the Pei-p'ing Branch is now more than 171,000.

According to December 1949 data, the SSFA membership in East China included: 170,080 in the Shang-hai Branch, 72,000 in the Chi-nan Branch, 41,000 in the Ch'ing-tao Branch, 10,000 in the Hang-chou Subbranch, 3,000 in the Fu-chou Branch and 12,000 in the northern Anhwei Branch.

The Lu-shun--Ta-lien Branch of the SSFA, established in April 1941, now controls about 894 subsidiary offices of the SSFA having a total membership of some 247,000.

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